

1 What is claimed is:

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3 **1.** A method for configuring a computer to obtain status information for subsequent print
4 jobs to a printer, the method comprising:

5 supplying a proxy printer driver in place of an actual printer driver associated with
6 the printer.

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8 **2.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

9 configuring the computer to spool RAW datatype to the printer.

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11 **3.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

12 storing a unique identifier of the computer.

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14 **4.** The method of claim 3 wherein the computer utilizes an operating system having a
15 registry, and the storing step comprises:

16 storing the unique identifier of the computer in the registry.

17

18 **5.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

19 setting a flag so as to indicate that the computer is able to provide status for print
20 jobs on the printer.

21

22 **6.** The method of claim 5 wherein the computer utilizes an operating system having a
23 registry, and the flag is within the registry.

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25 **7.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

26 hooking a function in the actual printer driver.

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28 **8.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

29 hooking a function in an interface to the actual printer driver.

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1 **9.** A method of gathering status for a print job from a computer to a printer, the method
2 comprising:

3 executing a proxy printer driver while producing the print job, wherein the proxy
4 printer driver is a proxy for an actual printer driver;
5 inserting into the print job a unique identifier of the print job; and
6 querying at least one of a spooler and the printer regarding status of the print job.
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8 **10.** The method of claim 9 further comprising:
9 detecting inception of the print job.
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11 **11.** The method of claim 9 further comprising:
12 producing a notification of the status of the print job.
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14 **12.** The method of claim 9 wherein the step of executing the proxy printer driver
15 comprises:

16 receiving a call to a function; and
17 calling a corresponding function in the actual printer driver.
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19 **13.** The method of claim 9 wherein the step of executing the proxy printer driver
20 comprises:

21 producing RAW data.
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23 **14.** A computer readable medium on which is embedded a computer program, the
24 program comprising:

25 a proxy printer driver translation part, the proxy printer driver translation part
26 being a proxy for an actual printer driver translation part.
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28 **15.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:
29 a status configuration utility.
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- 1 **16.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:
2 a status monitor.
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- 4 **17.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:
5 a spooler, wherein the spooler comprises a port monitor.
6
- 7 **18.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:
8 a graphic device interface.
9
- 10 **19.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:
11 a registry.
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- 13 **20.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:
14 the actual printer driver translation part.
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